| 1  | CITY OF NORTH CANTON, OHIO                                      |
|----|---|
| 2  | CITY COUNCIL  |
| 3  | COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING                                  |
| 4  |   |
| 5  |   |
| 6  | TRANSCRIPT OF   |
| 7  | JULY 6, 2020, MEETING   |
| 8  | VIA TELECONFERENCE  |
| 9  |   |
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| 11 |   |
| 12 |   |
| 13 | Transcript of Proceedings of the North Canton City              |
| 14 | Council, taken by me, the undersigned, Laurie Maryl Jonas,      |
| 15 | a Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for        |
| 16 | the State of Ohio, at the North Canton Civic Center,            |
| 17 | 845 West Maple Street, North Canton, Ohio, on Monday,           |
| 18 | July 6, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.                                      |
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| 20 |   |
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| 24 | Premier Court Reporting   |
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| 1  | APPEARANCES:   |
|----|--|
| 2  | Daniel Jeff Peters, Council President, Ward 2                          |
| 3  | Daryl Revoldt, Council Vice President, At Large                        |
| 4  | Stephanie Werren, Ward 3   |
| 5  | Dominic Fonte, Ward 4  |
| 6  | Mark R. Cerreta, At Large  |
| 7  | Matthew Stroia, At Large   |
| 8  | Patrick A. DeOrio, Director of Administration                          |
| 9  | Timothy L. Fox, Director of Law  |
| 10 | Jina Alaback, Director of Finance                                      |
| 11 | Robert G. Graham, Engineering Services                                 |
| 12 | Martin Van Gundy IV, Chief Building Official                           |
| 13 | Catherine Farina, Assistant Director of Administration and Development |
| L4 | Stephan B. Wilder, Mayor   |
| 15 | Benjamin R. Young, Clerk   |
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| L7 |  |
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| 1  | MR. PETERS: Good evening, everyone. I'd             |
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| 2  | like to call to order the North Canton city council |
| 3  | committee of the whole meeting, Monday, July 6,     |
| 4  | 7 p.m.  |
| 5  | Ben, would you please call the roll?                |
| 6  | MR. YOUNG: President Peters?                        |
| 7  | MR. PETERS: Here.                                   |
| 8  | MR. YOUNG: Member Werren?                           |
| 9  | MRS. WERREN: Here.                                  |
| 10 | MR. YOUNG: Member Stroia?                           |
| 11 | MR. STROIA: Here.                                   |
| 12 | MR. YOUNG: Member Revoldt?                          |
| 13 | MR. REVOLDT: Here.                                  |
| 14 | MR. YOUNG: Member Cerreta?                          |
| 15 | MR. CERRETA: Here.                                  |
| 16 | MR. YOUNG: Member Fonte?                            |
| 17 | MR. FONTE: Here.                                    |
| 18 | MR. YOUNG: And Member Foltz is absent.              |
| 19 | MR. REVOLDT: Motion to excuse.                      |
| 20 | MRS. WERREN: Second. Werren.                        |
| 21 | MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."                |
| 22 | ("Aye" in unison.)                                  |
| 23 | MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion              |
| 24 | carries.  |
| 25 | We'll just jump right in. First up, Finance         |

and Property Committee. Chairwoman Werren, you are up.

MRS. WERREN: Okay. I'll let Jina talk about this. I think what's really neat, though, what I have to say that we've been doing in looking at this from just kind of streamlining some functions in our government — in our finance department and so I think we're kind of doing that a lot more and looking proactively as opposed to reactively, and so I will let you go. Jina.

MS. ALABACK: Okay. Thank you.

Well, one -- one of the pushes into this digital age even further than what we would like to be is COVID. And so maybe it's, you know, the light at the end of the tunnel, but -- or the silver lining on the cloud or whatever they say, but so we've been interviewing and looking at a couple different digital budget softwares, and opengov by far exceeds most of them on -- it's a Cloud-based, so we don't have a server issue. It's a -- it has a yearly subscription and it brings together -- it modernizes and it streamlines all kinds of -- it integrates with our current software, our accounting software. It allows for collaboration. It has a workforce piece where we can model out personnel costs and benefits.

| 1  | It has the publication piece, so our digital budget   |
|----|---|
| 2  | book will incorporate stories, so there's words to    |
| 3  | the numbers and they make a lot of sense and then we  |
| 4  | can then use them for planning and strategic planning |
| 5  | and forecasting going forward. It has a citizen       |
| 6  | engagement piece to it for transparency. The stories  |
| 7  | allow for some communication about the numbers in the |
| 8  | budget, and it just really brings everything          |
| 9  | together. So we're really excited about this, and I   |
| 10 | know the first year we are eligible to use the CARES  |
| 11 | Act money to pay for it. So it wasn't something that  |
| 12 | we were budgeted, and that is actually one of the     |
| 13 | qualifying elements to use CARES Act money for.       |
| 14 | MR. FONTE: That's great.                              |
| 15 | MR. PETERS: Wow. Good stuff.                          |
| 16 | MRS. WERREN: How many communities have this?          |
| 17 | MS. ALABACK: I'm sorry. I didn't hear the             |
| 18 | beginning of your question.                           |
| 19 | MRS. WERREN: How many other entities have             |
| 20 | this?   |
| 21 | MS. ALABACK: Oh, goodness. Okay. So he did            |
| 22 | give us a list. There's lots and lots of government   |
| 23 | entities. Some of them I was trying to pull up        |
| 24 | their list.   |
| 25 | MRS. WERREN: Like, do you feel we're on the           |

cutting edge or is this something we should have had or --

MS. ALABACK: Well, I sort of do. Opengov was the state treasurer's office open checkbook. Do you remember the open checkbook?

MR. FONTE: Yeah.

MS. ALABACK: So you can go on the state treasurer's office and pull anybody's checkbook that participates in opengov, and they have taken that piece and they — their employment base is prior finance municipal — municipalities all over the country. So they are people who have actually done this job. They are either city administrators or they have been finance people. They're either in governments or, I'm sorry, cities or townships or counties all over the United States.

So the man who did the presentation was actually from Oregon, but his colleagues were in California and Arizona. And we did ask where in Ohio can we talk to people here. So the City of Wadsworth currently has this; the City of Upper Arlington; the City of New Albany, and then Hudson is actually using their permitting and code enforcement piece, and that was another great thing about this software is it branches out into many other things that we can bring

together in even more strategic ways. So we talked 1 2 to Hudson about that. And then GFOA, which is where we submit our CAFR for, they measure those based on 3 best practices and performance measurements, they 4 5 also have a budgeting piece, and the end document of this opengov is a publishable document that -- that 6 7 qualifies for GFOA's budgeting award as well. those are some of the cities in Ohio. There's a lot 8 9 more information than that. 10 MRS. WERREN: Thank you. That was great. Thank you. 11 12 MR. FOX: It definitely sounds like 13 personalized services of a specialized nature with percourior skills and aptitude that permits us to be 14 able to do this without the bidding requirement. 15 MR. FONTE: Question for you, Jina. 16 17 public, you know, so we can access this checkbook? We can look at where the money's going. If we wanted 18 19 to go in there and peek around, we can. We can't manipulate it, we can't change it, we can just view 20 21 it and print it if we wanted; right? 22 MS. ALABACK: Correct. 23 MR. FONTE: Okay. So is that a public records-type thing where, if they request a public 24 25 records they can just print it at will, basically?

MS. ALABACK: So, yes. That's actually one
of the benefits is this document will upload our
data, after we integrate it with other GORF financial
information, it will upgrade and update every night
overnight if we want it to.

MR. FONTE: Right.

MS. ALABACK: You know. So it will simply be on the city's website and it will -- their stats are it reduces the public records requests for this sort of financial data by 20 percent.

MR. FONTE: Right. I think that's great.

And I think it would make it easy and more user friendly to the consumers so everybody feels we're open and transparent. I think it's a good plan.

MR. CERRETA: I got a question for you, too. So this is a yearly? This is -- this number here is a year. Is there -- am I correct with that or what?

MS. ALABACK: It is not. That is — that was the original verbal. We were still in the midst of negotiating and talking with them and we wanted to get it on the agenda. So he finalized — they actually finalized their proposal. That is a five-year plan. Now, after we sent them our chart of accounts and I sent them a few more of the financial information about specifically to the City of North

Canton, you know, they drew up their offer and -- or their proposal and they actually came in at 170,000, so I will have to ask you to amend that, but it's over five years. So it's -- the software is 30,000 a year, and then the first year has an implementation one-time fee. So the first year is just under 50,000; it's 49,975. And then 30,000 each of the next four years.

MR. FONTE: So after that, what do we do, Jina?

MS. ALABACK: So after that, we would have to either -- we could have negotiated a one-year, a three-year or a five-year agreement, and then we can either continue that. So this subscription is, again, it's a Cloud-based so there are no updates, there are no servers, there's no equipment required and we don't pay for updates. Every two weeks the software development team sends out updates so it automatically updates the system.

MR. CERRETA: Yeah, that was my other question. Sometimes these companies, they give you this deal and then they charge you for the updates and they charge you for every little thing. Is there any other additional costs that they're going to hit us up with during this time?

| 1  | MS. ALABACK: In the documents that we have,           |
|----|---|
| 2  | and I still need to forward those to Mr. Fox to       |
| 3  | review as well before we sign after council approves, |
| 4  | but in the documents that we have, no, this is it.    |
| 5  | And we will call New Albany and Upper Arlington and   |
| 6  | Wadsworth and just doublecheck, you know, all of      |
| 7  | their processes, and you know, hindsight thoughts as  |
| 8  | well.   |
| 9  | MR. CERRETA: Good idea. Good idea.                    |
| 10 | MR. FONTE: This is one other quick question.          |
| 11 | So the way that we've been doing it now,              |
| 12 | labor-intensive recordkeeping and using other         |
| 13 | entities that triple doublecheck things, does         |
| 14 | eliminate all that? Does that, in the long run, save  |
| 15 | us money or what?                                     |
| 16 | MS. ALABACK: Yes. So our current budget               |
| 17 | process is very collaborative, but it's hands on. So  |
| 18 | it's a lot of manual input. We use Excel              |
| 19 | spreadsheets, and we have for years, and they are     |
| 20 | fabulous but they are labor intensive.                |
| 21 | MR. FONTE: Okay. Got it.                              |
| 22 | MS. ALABACK: One form rolls into 19 other             |
| 23 | pages and, you know, so there's a lot of room for     |
| 24 | manual error, and this will eliminate that.           |
| 25 | MR. FONTE: Okay. It will eliminate the                |

| 1  | error and make it way more cost effective in the long |
|----|---|
| 2  | run.  |
| 3  | MS. ALABACK: Absolutely. Yeah.                        |
| 4  | MR. FONTE: I like the plan.                           |
| 5  | MS. ALABACK: Uh-huh.                                  |
| 6  | MR. STROIA: Hey, Jina, this is Matt.                  |
| 7  | So like I'm reading, like, their website is           |
| 8  | very in depth, but so for, like, could we use this to |
| 9  | replace current payroll systems or to help payroll    |
| 10 | systems and also utility billing as well or is that   |
| 11 | just kind of incorporated with what we're using now?  |
| 12 | MS. ALABACK: In this you're right. This               |
| 13 | system is very expansive. Like I said, they have a    |
| 14 | permitting department, a code enforcement. They have  |
| 15 | budgeting, they have financial statements. There's    |
| 16 | all sorts of online platforms. We're not looking to   |
| 17 | maybe replace what we have right now with software    |
| 18 | solutions or CMI. This will integrate with that.      |
| 19 | And as far as payroll, you know, right now we         |
| 20 | outsource payroll to another company.                 |
| 21 | MR. STROIA: Right.                                    |
| 22 | MS. ALABACK: So I'm not sure we're looking            |
| 23 | to replace that. This gathers data from all of those  |
| 24 | platforms, brings them together for one reporting     |
| 25 | platform.   |

| 1  | MR. STROIA: Great.                                   |
|----|--|
| 2  | MS. ALABACK: So you'll be able to see a              |
| 3  | chart and click on the number and you can drill down |
| 4  | in as far as your little heart desires to find out   |
| 5  | what or just look at the chart, if you want to       |
| 6  | just do that. So                                     |
| 7  | MR. STROIA: Right. Nice. This is a great             |
| 8  | system.  |
| 9  | MS. ALABACK: I'm excited for you to see the          |
| 10 | demo. Hopefully we'll get one of those up and        |
| 11 | rolling here soon, too.                              |
| 12 | MR. STROIA: Cool.                                    |
| 13 | MR. FONTE: That's great. Thanks, Jina.               |
| 14 | MRS. WERREN: Okay. If there aren't any               |
| 15 | questions, I'll move to put that on the agenda.      |
| 16 | MR. PETERS: That will be under emergency as          |
| 17 | well.  |
| 18 | MRS. WERREN: Okay.                                   |
| 19 | MR. PETERS: Next up, Parks and Recreation.           |
| 20 | MR. DEORIO: Jeff?                                    |
| 21 | MR. PETERS: Yes, sir.                                |
| 22 | MR. DEORIO: Do you want to make sure that's          |
| 23 | amended to reflect the 170,000?                      |
| 24 | MR. REVOLDT: Yeah, this is Daryl. The                |
| 25 | language should say 170.                             |

| 1  | MR. PETERS: Yes, thank you. Thank you.              |
|----|---|
| 2  | Jina did mention that, but you're right. We didn't  |
| 3  | clarify that at the end. So that will be 170,000.   |
| 4  | MRS. WERREN: Okay.                                  |
| 5  | MR. REVOLDT: Jeff, this is Daryl. I've got          |
| 6  | one more question for you.                          |
| 7  | MR. PETERS: Yes.                                    |
| 8  | MR. REVOLDT: As I look at the legislation,          |
| 9  | it sounds like we're buying software, but are we    |
| 10 | are we not buying a subscription? Jina?             |
| 11 | MS. ALABACK: It is. It's an SAAS, and I             |
| 12 | don't know if you're familiar with IT language.     |
| 13 | MR. DEORIO: Software as a service.                  |
| 14 | MS. ALABACK: Correct. So it truly is a              |
| 15 | service. It is a software as a service. Exactly.    |
| 16 | It is a subscription. It is a software. It is a     |
| 17 | service.  |
| 18 | MR. REVOLDT: Should the ordinance reflect           |
| 19 | that? Or  |
| 20 | MRS. WERREN: No, I think it says what it is.        |
| 21 | MR. FONTE: Very cool.                               |
| 22 | MR. REVOLDT: I don't know what the software         |
| 23 | does. I guess that's my point is because it says    |
| 24 | we're buying software. But as we heard, this is     |
| 25 | we're buying a subscription that only runs for five |

| 1  | years. This is not something that we're buying       |
|----|--|
| 2  | that's a hard object that we're going to own on      |
| 3  | our on our laptop. This goes away in five years.     |
| 4  | And that was my only question.                       |
| 5  | MR. PETERS: Use that language that she used.         |
| 6  | MRS. WERREN: The SAAS, software as a                 |
| 7  | subscription.  |
| 8  | MR. PETERS: That's what she said.                    |
| 9  | MR. CERRETA: Just use that.                          |
| 10 | MR. PETERS: That's a good idea. Just put a           |
| 11 | line item in that.                                   |
| 12 | MRS. WERREN: Software subscription.                  |
| 13 | MR. DEORIO: For digital budgeting software           |
| 14 | as a service.  |
| 15 | MR. PETERS: There you go.                            |
| 16 | MR. FONTE: Hopefully if we renew in five             |
| 17 | years, if this works great, they'll be reasonable in |
| 18 | their upgrades on what their costs will be to renew  |
| 19 | in another five.                                     |
| 20 | MR. PETERS: Yeah. Okay.                              |
| 21 | Moving on, Parks and Recreation. In lieu of          |
| 22 | Chairman Foltz not being here, Pat, this was a       |
| 23 | legislation request from you. Do you want to give us |
| 24 | a brief overview of what the thought process is by   |
| 25 | moving this to the director?                         |

MR. DEORIO: Yes. Thank you.

As you recall, a couple years ago we started this review of our processes in how we determine what things cost in the city. And previously -- or currently, I should say, the way everything is run is that everything run -- everything as far as a rate, rental rate, runs through the council. And unless, you know, the council is willing to adjust this on a -- on a regular basis to keep up with the rising costs, it becomes -- it tends to become unworkable. I would say, looking back at the history throughout the city going back, you know, 20 years, throughout that course of time it hasn't actually worked out well that these things were attended to on a regular basis.

So we started making some changes two years ago. The first part of that was things that weren't a rental rate were moved from the council side to the administrative side. Various fees, notably the cleaning fees in particular. And what it did is it allowed administration to adjust those cleaning fees as we bid out our cleaning services. And they would — they change. And so we were changing the rates dynamically for the fees.

And I believe that, you know, where we are,

you know, today is that we need to do the same kind of thing on the rental rates. Our costs have gone up over the last several years while the rates have stayed the same. What that means is then we dip into the general fund to subsidize these operations.

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We've thought that this really should be supported by user fees; those that want to use the park should be able to pay for it. Our fees -- our rates are modest because pretty much everything is paid for, but there is maintenance that has to go on so, you know, whether I was here or someone else is here, I think it makes for a much more dynamic and responsive management of rental rates for the city parks. And, you know, the beauty of it is, is that if you don't -- you know, if I'm not here or if I am here and you don't like the way it's running, council can always take it back. So, you know, nothing's ever permanent. Council has the ability, but I think as I'm looking at it and I see, you know, our cost structure changing and another year going by, we need to be doing something and I would rather do it dynamically than wait four or five years to get around to figuring out and just being always behind the curve from day one. That was --

MR. FONTE: Patrick, it's -- Patrick, Dom

1 here.

Do you think, like, once you adjust it to what the current market should be maybe there should be a built-in 2 to 3 percent a year or 5 percent a year adjustment, kind of build it in automatically?

MR. DEORIO: You know, I don't generally like to see automatic, you know, cost of living adjustments, because if you look historically at that, over stretches of time they become very out of whack.

MR. FONTE: Okay.

MR. DEORIO: A lot of people use that as a means to not have to do the work and look at it. I don't like to see it on automatic pilot, but --

MR. FONTE: Okay.

MR. DEORIO: -- but, you know, that process is probably better than no process --

MR. FONTE: Right.

MR. DEORIO: -- I would agree with that. But if we have a choice, I would -- I always prefer for someone to actively be managing this and looking at it on a regular basis, and who should be doing that? Administration. Do you want them to bring this over all the time every year for an adjustment or be able to adjust it as needed? With the software that we

use, and, you know, virtually, I'll say probably 90 percent now of our rec rentals are coming through use of our software portal and we would have the ability to just dynamically change it, you know, right there as needed.

MR. FOX: Well, this spring and summer really is a perfect example of how the demand can fluctuate wildly.

MR. CERRETA: Well, one thing I want to ask about this, because we're the ones that take the heat when things go up, there's no doubt, whether you do it or whoever does. And the worst thing that could possibly happen is that you raise them, we don't know about it.

MR. FONTE: Right.

MR. CERRETA: You know, I get that -- I get that all the time now at the golf course over here. People come over and walk in my yard and tell me, "Can you believe how expensive this is?" I say, "Well, I don't know that." How do I know that? Well, this is the issue I sense we could get into also. If there could be some provision that we need to be informed in some way before all this happens with this, you know, this could just keep going up and next thing you know, what the hell is city

1 council doing with these rates? 2 MR. FONTE: Pat, what he's saying is --3 MR. DEORIO: I hear what you're saying and we 4 certainly, you know, have done, I think, you know, a 5 different, you know, model than that, but to throw 6 out the golf course I think is not an appropriate 7 comparison because we know that the golf course was 8 run in a free-for-all manner and things were given 9 away. Rates were different between people that lived 10 next door to each other. So, you know, I don't --11 you know, people that have used that facility in the 12 past and used to having the taxpayers subsidize its 13 operations for years and that is not a model that 14 we're following. So we're following a -- it's the 15 cost thing. 16 MR. CERRETA: The point was, Pat, we didn't 17 know about. We don't know about it. 18 MR. FONTE: Just keep us informed. 19 MR. CERRETA: We should know about it. 20 MR. YOUNG: If I may jump in. As the 21 legislation is currently written, the administration 22 is required to tell council two weeks before rates 23 become effective. 24 That's all I need. MR. FONTE: That's 25 Dominic. That's all I need is just keep me informed.

MR. PETERS: Mark, is that okay with you? 1 That would be fine. As long as 2 MR. CERRETA: we know about it and it doesn't get out of hand. 3 4 we don't know about it and just sneak up, sneak up 5 and then, you know, we're the ones that are going to take the heat for it. 6 MR. FONTE: You get blindsided, yeah. 7 MR. CERRETA: So that's the way it works. 8 So, yeah, if we're informed and knowledgeable about 9 it so if there's something that we feel doesn't work 10 we can at least talk about it. So I'm okay with 11 12 that. 13 MR. PETERS: Okav. 14 MR. FONTE: Me, too. MR. FOX: I'll tell you, that phone rings 15 nearly nonstop over in administration. It's almost 16 17 arm lengths away for Kelly and then Tracy just past that, and all day long everything from what's going 18 on with the restroom over at Dogwood to a storm sewer 19 drain to why aren't we having the fireworks, or --20 21 so there's -- there's plenty of calls. MR. FONTE: Yeah, I think that like what Mark 22 23 is saying is just a general everything, if we just get blasted with an e-mail, it's up to us to read it. 24

And then that way we're more informed and we look

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| 1  | more less broadsided.                                |
|----|--|
| 2  | MR. CERRETA: If it's in the legislation,             |
| 3  | that's all I need to know.                           |
| 4  | MR. PETERS: All right. Any other questions           |
| 5  | for Patrick regarding this? All right. We'll move    |
| 6  | this forward to the legislative agenda. No emergency |
| 7  | requested.   |
| 8  | All right. Next up, Water, Sewer and                 |
| 9  | Rubbish. Chairman Cerreta.                           |
| 10 | MR. CERRETA: Well, this is I'm going to              |
| 11 | turn this over to Rob, I believe he's still on the   |
| 12 | line here, but this is a very important issue about  |
| 13 | our backflow devices. Or is Pat on? Pat, is it you   |
| 14 | or Rob is going to run through this?                 |
| 15 | MR. DEORIO: We'll probably all just jump in,         |
| 16 | you know.  |
| 17 | MR. CERRETA: Okay. This is a very important          |
| 18 | issue right here, so I'll let you guys take over.    |
| 19 | Rob? Do you want to start? Or Pat?                   |
| 20 | MR. GRAHAM: Go ahead, Patrick.                       |
| 21 | MR. DEORIO: All right. So one of the things          |
| 22 | we've been looking at for about a year now is the    |
| 23 | issue of our backflow prevention device program. You |
| 24 | know, every community that manufactures water, you   |
| 25 | know, has some sort of backflow prevention measures  |

in place. So, you know, probably the most easiest one to understand for most laypeople would be, you know, those — those individuals that have a sprinkler system for their yard at their home. We want to make sure that when those devices are used that the water somehow isn't contaminated and flows back through our pipes and then somehow contaminates the general water supply.

So commercial applications have a different backflow device. Obviously they don't have sprinklers. But that was just to try to give you an example of how it affects residences, but it also affects commercial enterprises.

So our program has always been very labor intensive. We had an employee that covered this, and technology has come along such that this process could be automated, and using the Cloud, we would be able to capture all the data into our records as to what's happening with these backflow device inspections that take place.

So if you have such a device, you have to have it inspected. And every year you -- a plumber comes out, fills out a piece of paper, sends it to the city. We send it to the plumber, the plumber fills it out, sends it back, we enter it into and it

goes into an Excel spreadsheet. It's just very 1980s. So the software that we were looking at here allows us to get more real-time data, better testing, and to basically outsource that operation to take advantage of that software as a service.

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So the cost affiliated with this is borne by the user who has the device, so whether it's a commercial restaurant or whether it's a residence. The cost for that service and all that data analytics that goes with it and the recordkeeping, the notices that go out, the notices that come back, the failure reports, all these things that have to happen would be handled by BSI, and the cost of that is \$14.95 per inspection. So that's -- that's the fee. We don't get that. That's just the cost of using the program. And that makes it so that we don't have to have, like what we did with the previous one, opengov, opengov.gov. So there's a subscription fee of \$495 a year, period, and then this \$14.95 that is assessed to the user is collected by the plumber. The plumber as part of this program, then, remits that to BSI.

So when we look at then, well, what other communities are doing, and there are other communities that are using this, though they have a -- they have an adder that they put on to the bill

just as, you know, we do with our water, sewer, rubbish collection billing. We do all the billing for Kimble but we add a dollar, I think, or something to it as a billing service because we handle all the billing and take all the inquiries. So stuff like that would be the situation here where we could add, you know, up to \$2 I think is reasonable, 1 or \$2. Those dollars, the 1 or \$2 would come into the city, that would be used to pay the \$495 annual software as a service fee and then the balance, Mark Leichtamer, our superintendent at the plant, has indicated there are some EPA surveying requirements under this program that those residual funds, that the little that there are, would go to cover that EPA cost to So all of those people that don't have a backflow prevention device, this has no effect on them whatsoever.

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MR. FONTE: Hey, Patrick, question. This is Dom.

So for the user, which is our customers, our business people and sprinkler people and whatever, they pay, like, every year when they do, what is it, \$125? What is the fee to have the renewal of the permit or whatever? What's the end user cost going up from what it was? Do we know?

| 1  | MR. DEORIO: \$14.95.                                |
|----|---|
| 2  | MR. FONTE: What's it currently? Do we know          |
| 3  | what they're paying currently for the annual check? |
| 4  | MR. DEORIO: Well, that's up to each                 |
| 5  | individual plumber. I mean, the city doesn't get a  |
| 6  | piece of that.                                      |
| 7  | MR. FONTE: Do you know what the average cost        |
| 8  | of that is?   |
| 9  | MR. DEORIO: Of a plumber?                           |
| 10 | MR. FONTE: Yeah. Like just to have the              |
| 11 | backflow checked.                                   |
| 12 | MR. DEORIO: What's the average cost of a            |
| 13 | realtor? I don't know.                              |
| 14 | MR. FONTE: Not not well, I mean, it                 |
| 15 | depends, you know, on how many customers I have.    |
| 16 | MR. DEORIO: Exactly.                                |
| 17 | MR. STROIA: I can tell you it's \$80 for our        |
| 18 | building.   |
| 19 | MR. FONTE: 80 bucks? That's why I was               |
| 20 | curious. Like, you know, because at the end of the  |
| 21 | day, they're going to complain if they think we're  |
| 22 | gouging them. Which it sounds like we're not doing, |
| 23 | it sounds like we're just having a better tracking  |
| 24 | system really.                                      |
| 25 | MR. DEORIO: Well, it's it's more                    |

efficient. I mean, this does the work of more than one person.

MR. FONTE: Okay.

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MR. DEORIO: To do it properly. And what we were doing before was, you know, not up to -- not up to standards, in my mind.

MR. FONTE: Okay.

MR. DEORIO: And so it's kind of like the other one that you looked at. Sorry to go back and forth, but I didn't get to speak on the other one.

It -- the work that the other program does is equivalent to, like, five people that you would have to hire to do that work. Well, we never -- we didn't hire -- we didn't have five people to do the work so that part of the work never got done.

MR. FONTE: Right.

MR. DEORIO: And that data analytics is tremendously valuable. So in this case there's, you know, a whole series of notification requirements. It's finding out in real time where we are with who has completed a backflow inspection and who hasn't. And those who haven't, you know, working them through the process where at some point, if they don't comply, then they face a more serious sequence, which is they could lose — they could lose their water

1 supply. 2 MR. FONTE: So, Pat, is this like an annual 3 thing? Every year we have to do this. 4 MR. DEORIO: Every year people have to get 5 their devices inspected. 6 MR. FONTE: Okay. Got it. Yeah. 7 MR. DEORIO: I mean, mine at my house I think 8 was like \$50 or \$75, I can't even recall the number, but it wasn't -- it was whatever the plumber charged 9 10 me to come out to do that. 11 MR. FOX: That's because they -- I believe 12 they set them up, they clear the lines and so forth 13 for the -- isn't that for the cold weather? And then 14 when, you know, spring comes around they set them up 15 again. So there's a -- like a disconnect and a 16 reconnect, something along those lines; isn't that 17 correct? 18 MR. DEORIO: Yeah. And that's -- in a 19 perfect world, Tim, it would go that way, that it 20 would happen exactly like that, but what we find is 21 that we, you know, the notices would go out and then, 22 you know, inspections, the lines should be attended, 23 you know, to certainly into April. But there are 24 people that don't comply.

Sure.

MR. FOX:

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MR. DEORIO: And then it's not an inconsequential number and then we eventually get it in, you know, July and August. Well, we think that

MR. FOX: Sure. And, you know, all it takes is one of those to malfunction or someone believing that they're just going to do it on their own and the amount of this public utility that could be, you know, put in jeopardy, man, there's nothing like having your water off.

MR. FONTE: Right.

there's a better way.

MR. FOX: To recall how many things that you -- you need it for. Cooking, bathing, cleaning, you know, like watering the lawn, all of those things, but you lose that utility. Or, you know, take it out for the city and there's quite a few unsatisfied residents.

MR. CERRETA: Yeah.

MR. DEORIO: At some point, you know, you get some opportunity to come up for air, there's other legislation that will come down the pike on backflow devices. And we've been studying Canton and their program, I've got their rules and regulations and, you know, as it relates to commercial applications for backflow device, we should have more -- we should

1 have more updated standards as to what type of 2 devices we will allow you to install because 3 ultimately you're hooking up to our water supply --4 MR. FOX: Sure. 5 MR. DEORIO: -- and putting it at risk. So 6 Canton has done a great job with what they have written up. I have their rules and guidelines on my desk, we're working to adopt various things on that. 8 9 Rob Graham, Brian Hill, Mark Leichtamer, we've been 10 having committee meetings to see if we can get this 11 thing up and running and more updated. So this is 12 the first part of that, kind of, is just taking us to 13 that next stage. 14 Rob, you want to add some -- add some color 15 in here too? 16 MR. GRAHAM: I think Patrick really quite 17 eloquently covered it. 18 I guess one thing we could add is that Mark 19 Leichtamer is actually our EPA licensed backflow 20 administrator for the city. So he's ultimately 21 responsible for making sure this program is conducted 22 properly. 23 MR. CERRETA: If I'm not mistaken, to other 24 cities, I'm not sure what ours is, but if you're

found that you have had backflow contaminated, it's a

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| 1  | huge fine for that. This is really protecting those   |
| 2  | people from having their whatever backflow into and   |
| 3  | having big issues with cost of that, you know, that   |
| 4  | happen to our city.                                   |
| 5  | MR. FOX: Absolutely.                                  |
| 6  | MR. GRAHAM: Absolutely. If you have a                 |
| 7  | business and cross-contamination from an industrial   |
| 8  | process, you know, process water that gets sucked     |
| 9  | back into our system, or biological, just even from   |
| 10 | the sprinklers. Cat's out in the yard and the         |
| 11 | sprinkler goes and it sucks the stuff back and you    |
| 12 | never know.   |
| 13 | MR. FONTE: But for residents                          |
| 14 | MR. CERRETA: Go ahead, Dom.                           |
| 15 | MR. FONTE: I'm just going to say, if I'm              |
| 16 | sprinkling my yard, I don't have a well, I don't have |
| 17 | anything but city utility, water, I mean, do I have   |
| 18 | to worry about that backflow issue if I'm just        |
| 19 | sprinkling my garden or my yard? Is that going to be  |
| 20 | a problem for me?                                     |
| 21 | MR. DEORIO: If you have a sprinkler system.           |
| 22 | MR. FONTE: No, I don't. Just I mean a hose,           |
| 23 | a garden hose.  |
| 24 | MR. DEORIO: Not with a garden hose.                   |
| 25 | MR. REVOLDT: Hey, Pat. This is Daryl.                 |

Here's where he would have an issue. Let's assume that his water system fails, okay, for whatever reason. All right? He's got a problem between the curb and his house. He goes to his neighbor and he says, Hey, I'm out of water. Can I hook up to your house with my hose? And the problem is, that the neighbor is serviced by a well. So the risk is the well water flowing into the system, then ultimately contaminates when he gets his water reset because there's no backflow.

MR. FONTE: I see.

MR. CERRETA: Yeah. Yeah. And there are people that have wells here.

MR. REVOLDT: Not likely, but it's possible.

MR. CERRETA: Yeah. So anything that can contaminate, but an outside source, this can help. This is a beginning, it sounds like, so any — our biggest streamlines, I think this is a good thing to start with. This is one of the most important things with our community that we have going for us is our water and everything. So I think we need to take all precautions. This here just kind of streamlines the whole process.

MR. FONTE: This is a good explanation. Good explanation, thank you.

| 1  | MR. CERRETA: Very good, Pat and Rob. And is          |
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| 2  | there do we got enough votes to put it on? Any       |
| 3  | issues with anybody?                                 |
| 4  | MR. FONTE: This makes sense. It makes good           |
| 5  | sense.   |
| 6  | MR. CERRETA: Is this emergency? Is this              |
| 7  | I didn't see it on.                                  |
| 8  | MR. FONTE: No, it is not.                            |
| 9  | MR. CERRETA: Okay. Okay. We'll go ahead              |
| 10 | and put it on if there's no one else doubting it and |
| 11 | we'll move forward.                                  |
| 12 | MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mark. Thank you,              |
| 13 | Rob.   |
| 14 | MR. DEORIO: Thank you.                               |
| 15 | MR. REVOLDT: Mr. President.                          |
| 16 | MR. PETERS: Yes, sir.                                |
| 17 | MR. REVOLDT: I'd like to make a motion to            |
| 18 | amend our agenda this evening to include Item 4,     |
| 19 | which is a professional services contract for        |
| 20 | construction management.                             |
| 21 | MR. PETERS: All right. Do I have a second?           |
| 22 | MRS. WERREN: Second. Werren.                         |
| 23 | MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."                 |
| 24 | ("Aye" in unison.)                                   |
| 25 | MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion               |

1 carries. Which committee? 2 MR. REVOLDT: Is this under Street and Alley? 3 MR. PETERS: Street and Alley. 4 MR. REVOLDT: It was under Street and Alley 5 last time. This is for the contract for construction 6 management out I think on East Maple, is it not, Patrick? 7 8 MR. DEORIO: Yeah. This is a continuation 9 from last Monday's meeting. 10 MR. PETERS: I'm sorry. Okay. 11 MR. DEORIO: We're just bringing it back. 12 need to get, you know, resolution on this and we 13 thought that in the work that we had done from last 14 week to this week that we, you know, reached, you 15 know, what we think is more clarity and on the way 16 forward and what we're doing here. But so this will 17 be a, you know, this will be myself and Rob and Tim, 18 you know, having some discussion here, but just to 19 kind of get it going. 20 So this company, again, what they provide is 21 a service to us and we're -- it's really construction 22 management service and it's a highly proprietary, 23 highly intellectual, highly specialized in what they 24 do. And it's -- we don't have a choice in that we

have to have someone that can do this. This is a

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1 federal --

(Ms. Farina entering the meeting.)

MR. DEORIO: -- project with federal monies, I should say, East Maple Street, and they want it administered, managed in a certain way. So in order to move that project along, we have to get this in place. And we have to get it in place and that means, you know, passing it. We're going to ask for it to be done on an emergency. Because I don't think that we, you know, are really in a position to wait 30 days for the legislation to go into effect, don't think we need to. I think we're allowed to. But if we don't, then it might be, you know, difficult to get this project off the ground this year and that could have a disastrous consequence on the grant dollars.

Rob has obviously been in this field for a long time. He knows, you know, what the requirements are. He's, you know, checked in with the Ohio Department of Transportation, their websites, looking at, you know, what it is that these — this firm does. And there are special rules that are out there that allow us to move forward in the way that we're going to do.

So, Rob, I want you to talk about it, again,

just for a recap, you know, what this company does, how you have been involved in this. You know, you were with somebody before you were with North Canton, so there's been a process that was followed. You may have come across these guys before. How all did that transpire? And then after that then I want -- I think Tim wants to say some things and then ask some questions as well.

MR. GRAHAM: Right. As we talked last week, Omnipro Services would provide our -- our construction inspection and construction management services. With the federal monies, as we talked, you know, we have to do materials tracking right down to every nut and bolt, no foreign steel, prevailing wage, monitoring, interviews, disadvantaged business enterprise tracking. You know, all the stuff that goes with our -- our federal project. This firm specializes in -- they are actually doing it now on a purchase order for our Portage repaving and they did it two years ago for the very similar but quite smaller West Maple Street project that we did, you know, right outside the Huntington Bank there.

Kind of how we selected them is since it is a professional service, we went through a qualifications base selection process, or QBS.

That's not something that you take bids for. 1 with ODOT, our process is approved by ODOT. We're 2 basically biannually, or every other year, we put a 3 legal ad in the Canton Repository soliciting firms to 4 send us their qualifications for a two-year period 5 for engineering survey, construction management 6 When we have a project that exceeds 7 services. \$50,000, I pull three out of that box of 20 or 30 8 firms that have applied and select three to give us 9 an enhanced letter of interest or a technical 10 proposal. Three firms did that this spring. We got 11 12 those in mid May and then went through and scored them and ranked them 1, 2 and 3. Omnipro was --13 MR. DEORIO: Rob. Rob, who helped with you 14 that? 15

MR. GRAHAM: The assistant county engineer took a look at them as well. Since they're a stakeholder in the project with their bridge. So they were on board with our selection. We've both used Omnipro on numerous projects.

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And I guess the big question we had from the legal side is, you know, didn't go through a competitive bid, but in 25 years of -- of being on that consultant side of the fence, you know, you just don't bid professional services. The last thing we

want would be a firm to submit a bid with a bunch of 1 2 college interns out there overseeing our \$2 million 3 investment. You know, that's just not what we want. 4 We want an experienced firm. And again, the process 5 we follow is what ODOT asked us to do on projects 6 where they administer federal monies. That's kind of 7 a history of -- of how we arrived at the Omnipro selection. 8 9 MR. FONTE: Rob, you're in the process of 10 trying to get a grant, too, so what's the city's 11 financial obligation on the \$2 million project? 12 MR. GRAHAM: We're roughly -- roughly 13 10 percent. 12 percent. 14 MR. FONTE: So it's a big federal project 15 then. 16 MR. GRAHAM: Yeah. ODOT carries 80 percent 17 of construction and construction management. We've 18 got about 180,000 in municipal road funds. We asked 19 for maybe 90 to 100 but we're getting 180. 20 have that in writing yet. Verbally. And then we 21 would, along with the county on the bridge, pay the So we're getting a project at 10 cents on the 22 23 dollar maybe. 24 MR. FONTE: So it's like 28,000 or what are 25 you thinking?

MR. GRAHAM: No, I think we'd be more like a 1 couple hundred thousand by the time it's all said and 2 done, but still that's, you know, 10 cents on the 3 dollar for 2 million. 4 MR. FONTE: Got it. Got it. That's pretty 5 reasonable. 6 7 MR. GRAHAM: Yep. And it was all in the budget, too. We had all budgeted for this year. 8 9 MR. CERRETA: I like how you're explaining I'm sure Tim is going to follow up. Tim, I 10 this. didn't mean to interrupt. 11 MR. FOX: Yes, sir. 12 So when we first saw this, Ben and I, of 13 course, it goes through, you know, kind of our mental 14 checklist and so it -- it set off a little bit of a 15 buzzer for us. So I had checked with Rob because we 16 were over 50 and it -- there wasn't a bid selection, 17 so in our discussion I think we were -- the kind of 18 the terms of art that he had mentioned, too, had 19 caused my research to go towards the design services 20 that -- that don't require the bidding. And one of 21 the limitations, however, in that section of the code 22 23 is that because it doesn't require competitive bids, you can't tie an emergency clause to it. 24

However, after speaking additionally on this

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and further research, it more described what is provided in our charter, is provided in common law in Ohio, and that's personal services of a specialized nature and percourier skill and aptitude for this type of -- this type of project. And that's exactly what Rob had described, that essentially they're going to do the necessary, if you will, professional kind of -- I hate to call it accounting, but essentially it is, but in a different way where, to meet the requirements for this federal grant, there's quite a bit of accounting that is going on for all of these checklists that need to be met.

And so we need someone from the start to know what thresholds we need in which areas and to make sure that those that are doing those tasks are aware of those thresholds and accounting for those in a way that we can submit those to get our grant at the end of the day. So what he's described to me meets that requirement for the personal services of specialized nature, percourior and aptitude, and so with that this falls right into our charter and to the common law and we're permitted to do that without bid as well as with the emergency clause.

MR. FONTE: Thanks for the clarification.
MR. FOX: Yes, sir.

| 1  | MAYOR WILDER: Hey, Rob, I have a question.            |
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| 2  | MR. GRAHAM: Yes, sir.                                 |
| 3  | MAYOR WILDER: Mayor Wilder. Do they oversee           |
| 4  | minorities coverage in this project?                  |
| 5  | MR. GRAHAM: They will, yes. We will work              |
| 6  | the goal for the project is 8 percent as performed by |
| 7  | a disadvantaged business enterprise, a DBE, minority, |
| 8  | female, whatever. And yes, they not only track the    |
| 9  | amount of work, as does the state, because it's       |
| 10 | not I don't want to use the word "goal."              |
| 11 | MAYOR WILDER: Yes.                                    |
| 12 | MR. GRAHAM: It's minimum 8 percent. And               |
| 13 | there are big consequences, if the contractor doesn't |
| 14 | meet it. And yes, they track the goal, and then they  |
| 15 | also go a step further with all the employee, but     |
| 16 | even more detail to the prevailing wage interviews.   |
| 17 | They have to talk to each employee on the site        |
| 18 | several times throughout the time the contractor is   |
| 19 | on the site and literally, What is the guy making,    |
| 20 | and compare that to the federal wage rates for the    |
| 21 | task.   |
| 22 | MAYOR WILDER: Very fine. Thank you. That              |
| 23 | answered my question.                                 |
| 24 | MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Mayor.                         |
| 25 | MR. CERRETA: Well, Rob, you know I'm going            |

| 1  | to ask this. It has to do with East Maple Street.     |
|----|---|
| 2  | But this is in no way going to reduce the great       |
| 3  | esthetics that you're going to be putting on the      |
| 4  | walking bridge, the Game of Thrones bridge; right?    |
| 5  | MR. GRAHAM: That's a question at my                   |
| 6  | preconstruction for our bridge sub, who's very, very  |
| 7  | good, and what can we do to make it even better than  |
| 8  | what we have on the plans. And if so                  |
| 9  | MR. CERRETA: That's a good idea.                      |
| 10 | MR. GRAHAM: what would it could cost, and             |
| 11 | if so, what can use our grant monies on it. So I      |
| 12 | guess the short answer is yes, sir.                   |
| 13 | MR. CERRETA: Okay. Thank you, sir.                    |
| 14 | MR. PETERS: Okay. Any other comments,                 |
| 15 | questions regarding this?                             |
| 16 | MR. FONTE: Well, I say we move it forward             |
| 17 | then. It's on an emergency.                           |
| 18 | MR. PETERS: That is correct. Okay.                    |
| 19 | MR. DEORIO: Jeff, could we have that on the           |
| 20 | Wednesday meeting that you're doing for Jina's stuff? |
| 21 | MR. PETERS: Yes. I was just getting ready             |
| 22 | to say that.  |
| 23 | MR. DEORIO: Sorry.                                    |
| 24 | MR. PETERS: No, no worries. Thank you for             |
| 25 | the reminder.   |

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| 1  | I need a motion and a second to have a               |
| 2  | special council meeting this Wednesday. I will have  |
| 3  | two items, this one and the appropriation that Jina  |
| 4  | was Jina, which appropriation is that? I'm losing    |
| 5  | it here.   |
| 6  | MS. ALABACK: That's for the fund completion          |
| 7  | notes that are closing on Wednesday.                 |
| 8  | MR. PETERS: Okay. Yes.                               |
| 9  | MS. ALABACK: The economic development bonds.         |
| 10 | MR. YOUNG: Ordinance 38-2020.                        |
| 11 | MS. ALABACK: Yes.                                    |
| 12 | MR. PETERS: Ben, can you say that again just         |
| 13 | for the record?                                      |
| 14 | MR. YOUNG: Ordinance 38-2020.                        |
| 15 | MR. PETERS: Okay. Okay. So I need a motion           |
| 16 | and a second for a special council meeting for that. |
| 17 | MRS. WERREN: What time are you thinking?             |
| 18 | MR. PETERS: Well, I'm thinking in the                |
| 19 | morning, if we could.                                |
| 20 | MRS. WERREN: Could we do it at like 8:00?            |
| 21 | MR. DEORIO: That would be great.                     |
| 22 | MR. PETERS: I would be in favor of 8:00. I           |
| 23 | could go even earlier. What does everyone else       |
| 24 | think?   |
| 25 | MR. CERRETA: Any time for me is good.                |

| 1  | MR. PETERS: Is everyone good with 8 o'clock          |
|----|--|
| 2  | Wednesday morning?                                   |
| 3  | MR. CERRETA: 8:00 o'clock. Yep.                      |
| 4  | MR. REVOLDT: All right. Mr. President.               |
| 5  | MR. PETERS: Yes, sir.                                |
| 6  | MR. REVOLDT: I move                                  |
| 7  | MR. DEORIO: Hey, wait. I'd like                      |
| 8  | clarification again what's going to be on that       |
| 9  | agenda. Is it going to be the opengov is going to be |
| 10 | on that as well or                                   |
| 11 | MR. CERRETA: Sounds like that's what they're         |
| 12 | talking about.                                       |
| 13 | MR. DEORIO: They're talking about the                |
| 14 | economic development bonds.                          |
| 15 | MR. FOX: We might as well put that on as             |
| 16 | well because that's an emergency.                    |
| 17 | MR. PETERS: Yeah, let's do that.                     |
| 18 | MR. CERRETA: For clarification, I thought it         |
| 19 | was the gov thing.                                   |
| 20 | MR. PETERS: Both. There will be three items          |
| 21 | then.  |
| 22 | MR. REVOLDT: Then, Mr. President, I'm going          |
| 23 | to move we meet at 8 a.m. on the morning of July 8   |
| 24 | for the consideration of three items: Professional   |
| 25 | services as it relates to the contract for East      |

| 1  | Maple; an appropriation ordinance, 38-2020, and, as |
|----|---|
| 2  | we discussed this evening, an ordinance for the     |
| 3  | software subscription opengov.com.                  |
| 4  | MR. PETERS: Okay.                                   |
| 5  | MRS. WERREN: Second. Werren.                        |
| 6  | MR. PETERS: All in favor, say "aye."                |
| 7  | ("Aye" in unison.)                                  |
| 8  | MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion              |
| 9  | carries. And that concludes the agenda.             |
| 10 | Patrick, there was nothing else you needed;         |
| 11 | right?  |
| 12 | MR. DEORIO: Thank you so much.                      |
| 13 | MR. PETERS: Okay. Very good.                        |
| 14 | MR. FONTE: Thanks, everybody.                       |
| 15 | MR. PETERS: Entertain a motion to adjourn.          |
| 16 | MR. REVOLDT: So moved.                              |
| 17 | MR. CERRETA: Motion to adjourn. Cerreta.            |
| 18 | MR. YOUNG: Werren. Second.                          |
| 19 | MR. PETERS: Werren seconds. All in favor,           |
| 20 | say "aye."  |
| 21 | ("Aye" in unison.)                                  |
| 22 | MR. PETERS: Opposed? All right. Motion              |
| 23 | carries. Have a great evening, everyone. See you    |
| 24 | Wednesday morning.                                  |
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| 2  | (Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.)  |
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| 6  | Attest:   |
| 7  | An = in Plane   |
| 8  | Benjamin R. Young  Clerk of Council  Daniel Jeff Peters  City Council President |
| 9  | Clerk of Council City Council President   |
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| 1  | CERTIFICATE   |
| 2  |   |
| 3  |   |
| 4  | STATE OF OHIO ) )SS   |
| 5  | STARK COUNTY )  |
| 6  | I, Laurie Maryl Jonas, a Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly       |
| 7  | commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that this meeting was by me reduced to Stenotype and afterwards |
| 8  | prepared and produced by means of Computer-Aided  |
| 9  | Transcription, and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription.                                    |
| 10 | I further certify that this meeting was taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified.       |
| 11 |   |
| 12 | I further certify that I am not a relative, employee of or attorney for any party or counsel, or              |
| 13 | otherwise financially interested in the event of this action.   |
| 14 | I do further certify that I am not, nor is the  |
| 15 | court reporting firm with which I am affiliated, under a contract as defined in Civil Rule 28(D).             |
| 16 | IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand   |
| 17 | and affixed my seal of office at Canton, Ohio, on this 13th day of July, 2020.                                |
| 18 |   |
| 19 | Laurie Maryl Jonas RMR & Notary Public. My commission expires January 6, 2022.                                |
| 20 | My commission expires January 6, 2022.  |
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